

LUTHERAN SYNOD OPENS SESSIONS

Illustrated Feature of Quarto-Centennial—Committees Named to Transact Business

The State.
Walhalla, Oct. 31.—The Evangelical Lutheran synod of South Carolina met here in historic St. John's Lutheran church last night in its 92nd annual convention. Most of the delegates arrived just in time for the opening service at 8:30 p. m. This body had not met here for 30 years. Walhalla was once the home of Newberry college and some of the delegates now at attendance at synod were here as students.

The formal opening was conducted by the Rev. P. E. Monroe, the president.

The opening sermon was preached by the Rev. J. G. Gongaware, D. D., of Charleston; text Ep. 3:14-21. The confessional service was conducted by the Rev. E. Fulenwider of Newberry, after which the holy communion was administered. The devotions this morning were conducted by the Rev. J. B. Harman of Prosperity. The Rev. P. E. Monroe, president, read his annual report, which gives a resume of his work during the interim.

An election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: President, the Rev. E. Fulenwider; vice president, the Rev. H. J. Black; secretary, the Rev. W. B. Aull.

By special arrangements, tonight at the regular hour worship, a special illustrated lecture was given on the "Reformation of the 16th Century," conducted by the Rev. J. W. Horine, D. D., editor of The Lutheran Church Visitor.

With today, the church enters upon the quarto-centennial celebration of the great German Reformation, headed by Martin Luther. This lecture comes very appropriately tonight. It is the purpose that this lecture shall be used in the different churches throughout the state during the year. Under the head of official visitors,

the Rev. R. S. Patterson, D. D., of Charlotte, N. C., chairman of the board of home missions of the United synod, and the Rev. C. L. Brown, D. D., now on furlough from Japan, and at present at the head of the board of foreign missions, and C. E. Norman, student of theology, were introduced.

The Rev. S. C. Ballentine, the Rev. J. H. Harms and the Rev. J. E. Bushnell were made a press committee.

Second Days' Session.

The report of Newberry college was read by George B. Cromer, president of the board of trustees. The material equipment of the college was reported as the best in the history of the college, and it was shown that during the year the churches of the synod paid to the support of the college more than in any year of its history. The president of the college told of the raising of the standard of entrance to 14 units, and reported on the personnel and organization of the faculty. The enrollment for the year is most gratifying. The curriculum has been greatly improved by the addition of courses in Spanish, physics and chemistry, three years of each being now offered to students. During the year the college has been the recipient of two gifts, one of \$1,300 from Capt. Peter Fecklenberg of Charleston by request, and the other by Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Counts of Little Mountain, to endow a scholarship in memory of their son, Karl Monts Counts.

The Rev. P. D. Risinger, chairman of the board of trustees of Summerland college, rendered a report of that institution. The Rev. P. E. Monroe, president, also addressed synod with reference to this school. Splendid and encouraging reports came from this school. W. M. Oxner is in the field to collect \$25,000 to enlarge and further equip the institution. In view of this synod pledged to cooperate with this agent in raising this amount; and commended this school most heartily to the people. The following were elected as trustees, terms expiring 1917: Prof. J. S. Wheeler, the Rev. W. P. Cline, the Rev. S. C. Ballentine, J. E. R. Kyzer, Andrew Yonce

and H. O. Long; terms expiring 1918: the Rev. H. A. McCullough, J. R. Hauknight, the Rev. H. J. Black, H. E. Rast, S. W. Copeland and the Rev. J. J. Long; terms expiring 1919: Hon. Arthur Kibler, the Rev. L. P. Boland, H. S. Black, the Rev. P. D. Risinger, Dr. R. B. Epting and the Rev. E. W. Leslie.

SYNOD CLOSES ANNUAL SESSION

W. A. Counts of Little Mountain Elected Treasurer, Succeeding A. H. Kohn of Columbia.

The State.
Walhalla, Nov. 3.—The Lutheran synod has had a very busy session today. Last night a large congregation was present and listened with intense interest to an eloquent address by the Rev. J. C. Seegers on "The permanency of the Lutheran Church."

At the business sessions much was done. A change was made in securing money from the congregation for synodical purposes. Hitherto apportionments were made on each church. Now each church will be allowed to assume as many shares as it wishes voluntarily for purposes of synod.

The treasurer's report showed good work for the year. Synod contributes to missions, theological seminary, education, and orphan's home. The total from the sources amounted to \$22,626.74, or \$1,851.74 more than last year. The above amounts do not include money raised by the women, young people and children.

Another change is proposed in the management of synod's affairs. Notice was given that an amendment to the constitution would be offered, providing that the president of synod should be elected for four years, at a fixed date and that he should devote his whole time to synodical oversight.

Resolutions were adopted providing for the quadro-centennial celebration of the Reformation, and a committee was appointed to formulate plans and provide programmes.

The committee on the state of religion in the churches made an

optimistic report. The Word has been faithfully preached, finances are in an encouraging condition, and a deeper spirituality prevails among the people.

The missionary work of synod is under the supervision of a committee on missions and church extension. The Rev. E. Fulenwider was chairman of this committee during the year. Each mission point has been well managed during the year, and encouraging work done.

The press committee left the matter of printing in the hands of the secretary, the Rev. W. B. Aull of Walhalla.

Much interest centered in the election of a treasurer. For 22 years this office has been filled by A. H. Kohn of Columbia. Although Mr. Kohn during the day declined to further act in that capacity, he was again unanimously reelected. But he insisted that he could no longer do the work. A new ballot was ordered, and W. A. Counts of Little Mountain was elected to this position.

By resolution, synod in a body visited the grave of the Rev. J. P. Smeltzer, D. D., which is in the cemetery just back of the church. A brief exercise was held in which an address was made by the Rev. Z. W. Bedenbaugh, a former associate in the ministry.

At night an inspiring address on missions was made by the Rev. J. L. Smith of Sumter.

On motion of the Rev. J. D. Kinard of Greenwood John D. Capplemann of Charleston, president of the South Carolina Interdenominational Sunday School association, was heard in the interest of the work of the State association.

President Capplemann's earnest appeal on behalf of the interdenominational work was heard with sympathetic interest and elicited an appreciative response from the Rev. E. Fulenwider, president of synod.

With regard to interest on loans by the different treasurers this was passed:

"Resolved, That the fixing of the rate of interest of the loans of the

several endowment funds of the synod be left to the treasurer of each fund and his valuation committee."

The hospitality of the people of Walhalla was unusually marked and proper resolutions of appreciation were adopted.

The Rev. T. S. Hallman, D. D., of Spartanburg presented an unusual gift to synod, a complete file of its minutes since its organization 92 years ago. Suitable expression for this valuable gift was made.

With such expedition was the business of synod done that it was completed one day earlier than expected, so that the body adjourned late tonight. Most of the delegates will leave tomorrow morning. For the benefit of some of the older members of the congregation, the Rev. W. A. C. Mueller, D. D., of Charleston will preach in the German language tomorrow morning. The Rev. H. J. Black of Charleston will also preach Sunday morning, but these are post-synodical services.

The synod will meet later next year than usual—Tuesday after the second Sunday in November. The place is to be determined by the officers of synod. S. C. B.

BANKER SURPRISED LEXINGTON PEOPLE

Many Loath to Believe That Cashier Of Home Bank Has Absconded.

News and Courier.
Lexington, Nov. 2.—"Can it be true that Alfred J. Fox has absconded?" This question has been repeated many times today on the streets of Lexington, in business houses and around the firesides. It has been the chief subject of conversation on every side since the announcement was made yesterday that Mr. Fox, who for many years has been cashier of the Home National Bank, was short in his accounts at the bank and that he had left for parts unknown.

Mr. Fox was last seen in Lexington on Tuesday, October 24, on which day it is understood that a federal bank inspector discovered a discrepancy in the cashier's books. The matter having been called to the attention of Mr. Fox, he very carefully went over the books with the federal officer, it is said, and when the work of checking up had been finished carried the inspector to Columbia, using his own car.

Surprise to Public.

The general public knew nothing of the bank's troubles until a day or two ago, and when the announcement appeared in the papers this morning it caused considerable surprise. There has never been a more popular or a more successful business man in the town of Lexington than Alfred J. Fox, and to his wide and deserved popularity has the unprecedented success of the Home National Bank been largely due. It was Alfred Fox who first brought about the organization of the Home Bank, and he has grown up with the bank, and at the same time has won favor after favor among business men and farmers everywhere. His friends now stand dumbfounded and it is safe to say that they are his friends still. The people realize that there is something wrong, but it is hard to make believe that Alfred Fox has committed any crime or that he has robbed the institution with which he has so long been identified, and of which he might well be termed its father. His family and friends are ready now to lend him every assistance at their command, and they say that even though he may have been short in his accounts that had he let his troubles been known he would have experienced no difficulty in raising any reasonable amount. It is not believed that he has been guilty of any intentional wrong-doing without which there can be no crime, and taking that view of the matter and in view of the meagre announcement that has been made by the federal officers the people are not prepared to give much credence to his absence.

Seems to be no Excuse.

There seems to be absolutely no excuse for the alleged shortage, for Alfred Fox was a man of temperate habits, attentive to his duties, and so far as his friends know, did not follow the fast-going set. Not until right re-

cently did he own an automobile, and this it is understood he carried off with him. He was trusted by everybody, and wherever known, his word was as good as his bond. His aged mother, together with other members of his family, are naturally worried over the fact that they are unaware of his present whereabouts.

Another small run was made on the bank today by depositors, many of whom learned of the trouble through the papers today for the first time. The officers, however, had made ample preparation for the anticipated demand and every person was promptly paid who demanded it.

In a statement issued last night the directors, S. B. George, Dr. J. J. Wingard, Karl F. Oswald, T. P. Metzger and Dr. J. P. Drafts declared that the bank was not affected by the deficiency and urging upon all depositors to be patient. The statement says in part: "It is true that Mr. Alfred J. Fox, who for a number of years was our trusted cashier, left here last Tuesday or Wednesday and we do not know his whereabouts. It is also true that some of the funds of the bank, not of the depositors, were not accounted for when the national bank examiner made an examination of the bank about that date."

Status of Bank.

The Home National Bank has a paid-in capital stock of \$50,000 and surplus funds amounting to \$10,000. The liability of each stockholder is 100 per cent of stock, \$50,000, undivided profits of \$2,015 and Mr. Fox's bond is \$5,000. In conclusion the directors say: "If the people want to cripple an institution that has served them in need they can and every depositor will be paid in due time but we beg that you let us take our loss as we are willing to do although regretfully and continue to render you that faithful and efficient banking service which is so vitally essential to the industrial, commercial and agricultural development and growth of any community. In that way you will continue to be helped by us and you will give us a chance to recover some of the loss we now take in your service."

A Columbia firm of public accountants, commenced upon the auditing of the books and accounts of the bank's affairs this afternoon and nothing definite can be learned until this work has been completed. Just how much shortage has already been discovered and in what manner it was brought about the bank has not said. There can be no doubt apparently as to the soundness of the institution. It is known that Judge C. M. Eörd, local head of the Bank of Western Carolina, one of the strongest State banks in South Carolina, has offered the resources of his bank to help the Home National stem through the present critical period. Besides it is understood that the Columbia banks are ready and willing and anxious to lend all the assistance possible to their neighbor on this side of the river.

OLD TOWN LETTER.

Mr. Jess Matthews of Mountville paid his sister Mrs. J. S. Mount a visit this week.

Miss Azilee Maybin spent the weekend in Columbia, having gone down for the fair.

Those attending the fair from here were Messrs. B. O. Epting, L. C. Pitts, Jr., H. C. Fellers, H. T. Fellers, J. L. Fellers, J. W. Sanders, Richard Sanders, Mrs. H. C. Fellers, Mrs. C. V. Spearman, Misses Johnstone, Maybin, Ruby and Myrtle Fellers.

The regular monthly meeting of the school improvement association will meet on Friday afternoon at the school house. The programme "Autumn Vegetation" will be carried out, and a good attendance is urged.

The chances are that the man who shows up as a champion in times of danger is the kind of fellow who would look like a coward if he had to take a whooping dose of castor oil.

In hot countries the people are less civilized than in cold ones. Aren't we all less civilized when the temperature goes up? What a moral and intellectual blessing, then is an electric fan!



SOLD!
To the Man with the Black Mustache

RECORD PRICE BROUGHT BY A RANGE ETERNAL IN AUCTION

Recently a man named Hays—in an Ohio town—held a public sale of his household effects. Among the articles offered, was a Range Eternal which he had purchased in 1914.

After spirited bidding, the Range Eternal was sold to Mr. Albert Ferguson of Grove City, O., for only 50c less than Hays originally paid for it. But that is not all. Later on, four of those who bid for Hays' Range Eternal, bought new ones from the local dealer.

All of which simply goes to prove that the Range Eternal is "legal tender" and has an established reputation for SERVICE.

Let Us Show You the RANGE ETERNAL Everlastingly Good.

We have the same kind of range that Mr. Hays sold at such a record breaking price. Come in and see it. Let us explain, one by one, the 32 points of Eternal Excellence which make the service of the Range Eternal so delightful—and so economical. Don't buy any range until you really understand the Range Eternal.

THE PROSPERITY HARDWARE COMPANY
PROSPERITY, S. C.

Demonstration November 9th to 15th
\$10.00 worth of ware free with range bought then. Let us explain this range to you. We will have a man from the factory during the demonstration.
PROSPERITY HARDWARE COMPANY

The Anderson Phosphate & Oil Company Offer the Following Prizes to Farmers

- Sowing wheat this fall who use the Anderson "Fish and Blood" goods when sowing and Anderson Phosphate and Oil Co.'s top dressing and soda next spring:
- For the best five acres of wheat.....\$100
- For the second best five acres of wheat..... 75
- For the third best five acres of wheat..... 60
- For the fourth best five acres of wheat..... 50
- For the best three acres of wheat..... 50
- For the best one acre of wheat..... 25

Mr. S. M. Byars, County Demonstration Agent, will name a committee in due time to award the prizes. All you will have to do to get the prize is to make the yield. Raising wheat and oats successfully is largely a matter of preparation and fertilization when grain is sown.

If the next wheat crop should be short flour would make another advance.

Anderson Phosphate and Oil Co.
W. F. FARMER, Secretary.
See Gresham & Speer, Greenwood, S. C.